

Beth-Elements

The Bulletin of Beth-El Congregation - A Reform Synagogue Serving Tarrant County



September 2024



Rosh Hashanah Services

Evening service Wednesday, Oct. 2, 7:30 p.m.

Followed by the Rosh Hashanah Reception hosted by WRJ

Family Service Thursday, Oct. 3, 9 a.m.

Morning Service Thursday, Oct. 3, 10:30 a.m.

Membership cards or special tickets required for all High Holy Days services. If you did not receive yours, please contact the Temple office ASAP.



Brian Zimmerman, Rabbi

Divrei Torah

..... Rabbi Brian Zimmerman

At Rosh Hashanah, we start all over again. No matter how good our year, we turn back the page, review or re-trace our steps, and then move forward. Sometimes the deviation is only a few steps, but sometimes we discover we are far off the beaten path. That process of looking back and reviewing before we move forward is called T'shuvah.

I hope each of us will do the work of revisiting our steps from the past year this September. That way, we can be prepared to move forward after the Jewish New Year.

This article is about small changes a bit more mundane than transforming our lives. In preparation for the coming year, we have tweaked things in our adult learning book, in our Religious School day, and in

our programming at Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services. My pre-Rosh Hashanah article this year will focus on those changes you might otherwise miss.

Our Selichot program on Saturday, Sept. 28, will be a community gathering of all Jewish congregations at Congregation Ahavath Sholom. Please join us to braid challah dough and study with clergy from all the different congregations. We will join in prayers of Selichot, repentance, as we begin the final steps toward the High Holy Days.

The Rosh Hashanah children's service will begin 15 minutes earlier at 9 a.m. and will be geared slightly more toward kindergarten through 4th-graders. The service will still end by 10 a.m., but we will add a few

prayers and a Torah parade and reading, plus the usual stories and songs our children look forward to hearing. Our goal is to create a service that speaks to *continued on page 10*

Bar Mitzvah



Ashton Finkelstein

Sept. 14

Son of Alice & Dr. Jason Finkelstein

Worship Services

Daily Minyan with the community

Monday-Thursday 6 p.m.

Welcome Shabbat with wine, cheese, and friends at 5:30 p.m. Fridays, before the 6:15 p.m. services.

Friday, Sept. 6

Kabbalat Shabbat with John Sauvey and the Beth-El Choir 6:15 p.m.
Special Guest Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Stephen Cady, Brite Divinity School (See page 2.)

Friday, Sept. 13

Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Zimmerman and Angie Friedman 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 14

Shabbat morning service and Bar Mitzvah of Ashton Finkelstein 10:30 a.m.

Friday, Sept. 20

Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Zimmerman and John Sauvey 6:15 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 27

Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Zimmerman.. 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 28

Shabbat morning service of song and study at Rabbi Zimmerman's home* with Angie Friedman 10:30 a.m.

Communitywide Selichot Program

of baking, learning, and praying at Congregation Ahavath Sholom 6:45 p.m.
See page 8 for more information

* All are welcome but please RSVP to the Temple office for more information and directions.

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All services in person and streamed at youtube.com/BethElCongregation.



Robert Simon

President's Message

..... Temple President Robert Simon

Greetings. Fall is nearly here. When you receive this column, the weather will still be hot, but the kids (or grandkids) will be back in school, and the college football season will have just started. It's a great time of year. Beth-El Congregation has enjoyed a good summer. We have replaced another air conditioning unit. High Holy Days packets have gone out (please review them). And weekly Kabbalat Shabbat service attendance has been strong and enthusiastic.

We have a full calendar of events coming up this fall. **Religious School begins Sunday, Sept. 8.** Please come meet the teachers, learn about the program and Beth-El youth groups, and schmooze with Cindy and me. We'll bring the bagels! If you have kids from toddlers to 10th grade who have not enrolled in the Religious School, please enroll them. Jewish identity begins with Jewish education. There is no substitute for it.

Regarding adult education, on **Sept. 16 the Gates of Chai**, a program affiliated with TCU's Brite Divinity School and supported by the Jewish Federation, will welcome Dr. Benjamin Sommer, a professor at Jewish Theology Seminary and an old friend of mine. Dr. Sommer will lecture on the Hebrew Bible and the afterlife. Despite what you may have heard, Jews also believe

in an immortal soul that survives our mortal life. Dr. Sommer will speak at 7 p.m. at TCU. Admission is free, but you must pre-register.

Our Jewish community will celebrate Selichot together at Congregation Ahavath Sholom, on Saturday evening, Sept. 28. Rabbi Zimmerman will be one of the service leaders in a program that looks outstanding. Please come and represent Beth-El.

Rosh Hashanah begins Wednesday evening, Oct. 2. After services, the WRJ will host a Festival Oneg Yom Tov, with challah, apples, honey, and other treats. **Yom Kippur follows on Friday, Oct. 11.** The holiday will conclude with a Break Fast on Saturday evening.

Rabbi Zimmerman, Cantor Shoshana Abrams Kaikov, the Beth-El Office, the Choir, and the Worship Committee are hard at work preparing for the High Holy Days. On Rosh Hashanah morning, I will again address the Congregation and speak about the type of community we strive to create at Beth-El and the value of your participation.

On **Nov. 1-3, Beth-El will hold a congregational retreat** at Greene Family Camp. All are invited. We will have Shabbat dinner, worship services, and community-building activities for all ages! Contact the Beth-El Office or Cindy Simon (817-714-5877) for more information. I look forward to seeing you there.

Meet new Brite President The Rev. Dr. Stephen Cady

Please join us **Friday, Sept. 6**, for Shabbat services and to welcome the Rev. Dr. Stephen Cady to Beth-El Congregation. In a few weeks, he will be installed at TCU's Brite Seminary as the new president.



The Rev. Dr. Stephen Cady

Dr. Cady previously served as Senior Minister of Asbury First United Methodist Church in Rochester, N.Y. The congregation, known for social justice, anti-poverty efforts, and LGBTQ advocacy, flourished during Dr. Cady's tenure. During his time there, he increased worship attendance and completed the largest capital campaign in its history to renovate, expand, and transform a historic building into a fully accessible Community Outreach Center. The center offers meals, showers, laundry, hair care, clothing, and health care to the most vulnerable individuals in the community.

Please attend and bring your Jewish and non-Jewish friends for this special opportunity to hear the Rev. Dr. Cady, who has made outreach to the Fort Worth Jewish Community a special priority.

Art · Music · Sports · Food · Fun · Shabbat · Campfires · S'mores · Singing · Havdalah Under the Stars

Beth-El Family Retreat

Greene Family Camp, Bruceville, TX

Nov. 1-3, 2024

All ages are invited to join!

Early-bird registration ends Sept. 15.

Scan the QR code or visit the Beth-El website to register

New Member Profile



Meet The Davidson family: Joseph and Chelsey, Charley (6th grade), Olla (4th), and Reid (1st)

Joined Beth-El: March 2023

What brought you to Fort Worth? Moving closer to Chelsey's hometown.

Why Beth-El? "You have made us feel like family from the moment we showed up. We are so happy to be part of the Beth-El community."

What do you do for a living?

Chelsey, a stay-at-home mom and teacher, homeschools the boys and is excited to teach the kindergarten Religious School class and chair the Maccabees youth group (1st-4th grades). Joseph works in commercial real estate after spending 15 years in senior leadership in the trucking and fuel distribution industry.

Where are you from originally?

Chelsey is from North Texas and Joseph is originally from Lake Charles, Louisiana, and grew up mostly in Georgia. They met while attending Texas A&M and married in 2009.

What's your favorite way to spend a family weekend?

The entire family is heavily involved in scouting, camping, hiking, and various outdoor activities. This past summer, all three boys attended Greene Family Camp for the first time and had a fantastic experience. "We are very excited for the Beth-El Retreat at GFC this November!"

Say "Hi" when you see the Davidsons.



Shoshana Abrams Kaikov

Religious School 5785

Education Director, Cantor Shoshana Abrams Kaikov

Welcome to the 5785 School Year! It's hard to believe September is here and the Jewish New Year is upon us. Our wonderful faculty and I have been very busy preparing for another AMAZING school year!

Opening day of Religious School is

Sunday, Sept. 8, at 9:30 a.m. Please join us as we welcome all our families — those who joined us last year, those whom we missed, and those who will be joining our community for the first time. We'll kick things off with a bagel breakfast in the Great Hall and a fun assembly for the whole family.

Our theme for the 5785 school year is *L'dor Vador*, from Generation to Generation. We are each an important link in the chain of our tradition. It is our duty to learn the ways

of our people from our predecessors so we may someday be able to pass the torch to those who come after us.

We will weave this important theme into everything we do at Religious School this year with the hope students will live this value not just at Beth-El, but also at home and out in the world.

We have some exciting changes for this school year, including a new teen curriculum as well

as tefillah by age group. If you have not yet signed up for Religious School, it's not too late! Please visit bethelfw.org and complete the Temple membership form and the Religious School application. Contact me at shoshanakaikov@bethelfw.org with any questions.

I wish you and all your loved ones a sweet New Year filled

with health, happiness, and success in all you do. I can't wait to see you all at Religious School!

**Beth-El Religious School
Opening Day
Bagel and Breakfast
and Assembly**

Sunday, Sept. 8, 9:30 a.m.

Bring the whole family and join us as we kick off the 5785 school year with a celebration!

Youth Group Summer Activities



Junior Maccabees (birth - Kindergarten), chaired by Brittany Walker and Lian Horenblas, had a play date on June 22 at Brittany and Jason Walker's home.

Contributions

Archives Fund

In Honor of a speedy recovery
for Hollace Weiner

- Beverly and Michael Ross
- Carole Rogers

In Memory of Carol St. Onge

- Beverly and Michael Ross
- Sarah and Melvin Ogle

In Memory of Debby Rice

- Judith Cohen

In Memory of

- Esther and Michael Winesanker
- Miriam and Steven Levy

Caring Congregation

In Honor of a speedy recovery
for Hollace Weiner

- Marilyn and Van Stenzler
- In Honor of Caring Congregation really
CARES! Thanks for making
my healing easier.
- Martha Brown

In Memory of Avette Covitt

- Carol and Richard Minker
- In Memory of Sarae Cohen,
Nancy Ginsburg's mother
- Carol and Richard Minker

Floral Fund

In Honor of Anne's Birthday
Yuyo Westermann

In Honor of Yuyo's birthday

- Anne Westermann
- In Memory of Syd Kboudi
Marilyn and Van Stenzler
- In Memory of Louise Snelgrove
Susan and Russ Schultz
- In Memory of Seyman Rubinson
- Marty Rubinson, Denae Chance and
Ellen Rubinson

In Memory of Karen Delavan

- Marilyn and Van Stenzler
- In Memory of Seymour Lawrence

- Phyllis and Eric Lawrence

In Memory of Gladys Lawrence

- Phyllis and Eric Lawrence

Library Fund

In Honor of Sandra and Ira Hollander's
50th anniversary

- Pattie Wood
- In Memory of Avette Covitt
- Alan and Loretta Feinberg

In Memory of Felicia Shloss

- Alan and Loretta Feinberg
- In Memory of Lillian Maass

- Cindy and Steve Bond

In Memory of Lee Anspacher

- Marla and Richard Parvey
- In Memory of

- Suzie Kornblit-Rosenberg
- Judie and Bob Greenman

- Jeanne and Steve Ginsberg

In Memory of Sarae Cohen

- Judie and Bob Greenman
- In Memory of Linda Kriger Usdan

- Jeanne and Steve Ginsberg
- In Memory of Roger Maass

- Cindy and Steve Bond

Mitch Stenzler Scholarship Fund

In Honor of a speedy recovery
for Martha Brown

- Marilyn and Van Stenzler
- In Memory of Avette Covitt
- Roberta and Mark Gerrick
 - Phyllis and Sheldon Levy
 - Jeannie and Karl Rosenblum
 - Dori Byers

- Sonya Stenzler
- Ric Spiegel and Mary Collins

In Memory of Mitch Stenzler

- Sonya Stenzler
- In Memory of Ruth Sandler

- Sonya Stenzler and family

Music Fund

In Honor of a speedy recovery
for Hollace Weiner

- Jane Oderberg

In Honor of a speedy recovery
for Martha Brown

- Jane Oderberg

Music Fund (continued)

In Honor of the birth of Rylee Rodda

- Lesli and Rick Siegel
- In Memory of Imre Ungar

- Tamas and Jutka Ungar

In Memory of Avette Covitt

- Carole Rogers

Operating Endowment

In Memory of Sandra Sharpe

- Marty Sharpe

In Memory of Avette Covitt

- Brian and Tina Weiner

In Memory of Nell Goodman Hall

- Charles Hall

In Memory of Frederick W. Hall

- Charles Hall

PrimeTimers

In Memory of Paula Kelfer

- Howard and Laurie Kelfer

Rabbi Mecklenburger's Discretionary Fund

In Honor of Rabbi Mecklenburger

- Gary Waite and Ruth Ellen Grant

In Honor of the wedding of

- Susan Luskey and John Crawford
- Carole Rogers

In Memory of Joseph Maurice Polsky

- Sandra and son Joe Polsky;
Debbi and son Julian Tyler

In Memory of Ruby D. Cantor

- Sandra and son Joe Polsky;
Debbi and son Julian Tyler

In Memory of Rosalyn G. Rosenthal

- Sandra and son Joe Polsky;
Debbi and son Julian Tyler

In Memory of Daniel Neckers

- Sandra Polsky

In Memory of Shirley R Neckers

- Sandra Polsky

Rabbi Zimmerman's Discretionary Fund

In Thanks for love and kindness of
the Caring Congregation Commit-
tee, Genie Long and Anntoinette
Baker

- Martha Brown

In Honor of Rabbi Zimmerman

- Sylvan Schwartz, Jr.
- Marilyn and Van Stenzler
- Seme and Mark Cooper

In Memory of Noel Louis Barstein

- Lesli and Rick Siegel

In Memory of Victor Neal Meltzer

- Karen Meltzer and family
- In Memory of Phillip Dillon

- Marjorie and Eric Deutsch

In Memory of Avette Covitt

- Marjorie and Eric Deutsch

In Memory of Lee Anspacher

- Marjorie and Eric Deutsch

In Memory of

- Suzie Kornblit-Rosenberg

- Joan and Howard Katz

- Sheri Allen

In Memory of Miriam Schultz

- Leigh and Louis Schultz

In Memory of Michael Handelman

- Caren Handleman and Steven Pew

In Memory of Claire Smith

- Donna Smith Rankin

Religious School

In Memory of Phillip Dillon

- Carole Rogers

In Memory of Alfred M. Rosenfield

- Carol and Steve Kline

In Memory of Phillip Dillon

- Joan and Howard Katz

In Memory of Jarry J Kline

- Carol and Steve Kline

Rosenthal-Siegel Education Endowment Fund

In Honor of

- Elanor Blumenfeld's Bat Mitzvah

- Louise Lamensdorf

In Memory of Rosalyn G. Rosenthal

- Gail Granek

Temple Fund

- In Honor of Sandra and Ira Hollander's
50th anniversary
- Laurie and Lon Werner
- In Honor of
Brigitte Altman's 100th birthday
- Leigh and Louis Schultz
- In Honor of Abe and Kim Factor's new
grandbaby
- Beverly and Michael Ross
- In Honor of Michael Ross
- Wesley Sunday School Class
- In Memory of Allen Klotzman
- Harriette and Arnold Gachman
- In Memory of Irving Klotzman
- Harriette and Arnold Gachman
- In Memory of Dr. Allen H Kline
- Carol and Steve Kline
- In Memory of Brad Gaber
- Carol and Steve Kline
- In Memory of
Ruth Zimmerman Napoleon
- Sheryl Levy
- In Memory of Irving Napoleon
- Sheryl Levy
- In Memory of Sadie Gross
- Rozanne and Billy Rosenthal
- In Memory of Anne Belle Rosenthal
- Rozanne and Billy Rosenthal
- In Memory of Pauline Kurtz Weiner
- Hollace and Bruce Weiner
- In Memory of Avette Covitt
- Beverly and Michael Ross
 - Edwin and Diane Kach
 - Teaktree Capital Management
- In Memory of Rosalyn G. Rosenthal
- Michael and Valerie Sonsino
 - Susan Luskey
 - Louise Lamensdorf
 - Tom and Jennifer Hillman
 - Charles Stults
- In Memory of Sarae Cohen
- Susan Luskey
- In Memory of LaDona Miller
- Keith and Karen Miller Zeff
- In Memory of Allen Klotzman
- Cheryl and Laurin Baum
- In Memory of Rolly F. Schur
- Holly and Bill Schur

Temple Fund (continued)

- In Memory of
Suzie Kornblit-Rosenberg
- Beverly and Michael Ross
 - Ruth and Doug Roper
- In Memory of William Wyatt Campbell
- Kim and Abe Factor
- In Memory of E.M. "Manny" Rosenthal
- Rozanne and Billy Rosenthal
- In Memory of David Krumholz
- Rozanne and Billy Rosenthal
- In Memory of Gussie Weiner
- Hollace and Bruce Weiner
- In Memory of Harry Roth
- Barbara and Sidney Ander
- In Memory of Sandra Rubin Koslow
- Meg and John Rubin
- In Memory of Sylvia Bronstein
- Rochelle and Buddy Moses
- In Memory of Jean Whatley
- Beverly and Michael Ross
- In Memory of Abraham Leventhal
- Judi and Harry Leventhal
- In Memory of
Reuben and Melvin Blumberg
- Loesje Blumberg
- In Memory of Louis H. Schur
- Holly and Bill Schur
- In Memory of Clarisse and Oscar Lavine
- David Lavine
- In Memory of Madelyn Gross Walters
- Rozanne and Billy Rosenthal

Tree Fund

- In Memory of Sam Moslavi
- Robin Weinberg and Mark Pritchard

WRJ

- In Honor of a speedy recovery
for Laurie James
- Jenny Solomon

Youth Fund

- In Memory of Erica Hochster
- Linda and Jeff Hochster
- In Memory of Sally Lynn Schur
- Holly and Bill Schur
- In Memory of Rosalyn G. Rosenthal
- Susan Saxe and Dede Seltzer

Library Reviews

..... Margie Zentner



Fair Rosaline

by **Natasha Solomons**

gives voice to Rosaline Capulet, Juliet's cousin and Romeo's forgotten lover, in this feminist twist on Shakespeare's tragedy. Rosaline is only 15 when she loses her mother to pestilence and is faced with a future in a nunnery to escape the expense of a dowry. After attending a masque at the Montague's, she's swept into an intense but short-lived love affair with Romeo that ends when Romeo meets Juliet. After Rosaline's "eyes are opened," she sees Romeo as a predator and vows to save her cousin from a dark fate.



The Ghost Orchid

by **Jonathan Kellerman**

features psychologist Alex Delaware and his best friend, Milo Sturgis, who are asked to consult on a double murder of a playboy heir and his wealthy, married neighbor who were having an affair. What seems to be a simple case of revenge quickly takes on new proportions when Sturgis and Delaware discover holes in the deceased neighbor's identity. This novel is a treat for longtime fans as well as newcomers.



On Her Own

by **Lihi Lapid**

is a story about Nina, a teenager who runs away from home following an argument with her mother about Nina dating an older man. On the first night Nina spends with this man, she witnesses his involvement in a murder. She then runs from him into the arms of Carmela, who thinks Nina is her granddaughter, Dana. Taking on this new identity, Nina not only develops a relationship with Carmela but also seeks shelter from those parts of her life from which she is running. "On Her Own" is a tense psychological read about two families looking for redemption.



Laurie James

Women of Reform Judaism

WRJ President Laurie James

I'd like to start my first column as WRJ president with a couple of apologies. First, some of you were told that we were moving back to the Pacific Northwest over the summer. It was partly true: I had a job at the VA in Portland, but Jason's job was a casualty of 2024 federal budget cuts. So, here we stay (both still at our VA jobs) and here I am — in part because of Hollace Weiner. When I moved back to Texas from the PNW in 2004, I ran into Hollace, who knew me from our days when I worked at Tarrant County Public Health and she was the only writer on the Star-Telegram staff who would cover stories about HIV and AIDS. Hollace encouraged me to become active in WRJ.

My second apology has to do with our struggles with our membership list,

which is reflective of the difficulty of sorting certain ShulCloud data. It was never our intention to leave any of you out, and we're working to make things better this year. There's a new QR code on the membership form, but you can still join by writing a check and attaching it to the form.

It's my 20th anniversary as a member of Beth-El and WRJ, and I want the love and friendship I've experienced over the last two decades for all of us. Please join WRJ — we're kicking off September with our traditional **Rosh Hashanah Bake-in on Sept. 15 and 29** in the kitchens,



WRJ honored former President Linda Hoffman with moscato, stories, cookies, challah, and chopped liver on Aug. 9. Above: Suzanne Slatkin, Jenny Solomon, Laurie James, and Ellen Rubinson.

a pool party at Eve Shulman's house on Sept. 21, and of course our Rosh Hashanah reception on Oct. 3. And our **major fundraiser brunch is set for Nov. 10** — join us for a day of social action and fundraising. Thank you for supporting our Sisterhood and our Religious School!



Eric Deutsch

Men of Reform Judaism

MRJ President Eric Deutsch

Welcome to the 2024-2025 year from your MRJ. We kicked it off in mid-August

with a great BBQ hosted by Mitch and Marcie Reitman. Thanks, Mitch and Marcie!

September will be a very active month for MRJ. On Sunday, Sept. 8, we will assist the Religious School with the opening day celebration, and then at 10:30 a.m. that morning, we will have our first monthly meeting of the year. The following weekend, we will cater a Kiddush luncheon for a bar mitzvah. On Sunday, Sept. 29, we will put up the Sukkah, and later that week we will

provide ushering and greeting services for Rosh Hashanah.

And just a heads up the **Matzo Ball Golf Classic**, our biggest annual fundraiser, is **Sunday, Oct. 20**. See page 11 for details.

We are looking forward to another great year and would love to have you join us, so please contact me if you have any questions about MRJ or our activities at eric.deutsch@haynes-boone.com or 972-800-3578.

Get the latest Beth-El News
Sign up for Rabbi's weekly e-blasts by
e-mailing: rabbiz@bethelfw.org

Primetimers

Michelle Hartman

Thursday, Sept. 19

Welcome back, Primetimers! We had a fantastic time at the Kimbell Art Museum in August. Now it's time to get ready for the High Holy Days. Our program for September will be on Thursday, Sept. 19, and is titled "Healthy Living by Jewish Teachings." Our teacher, Remi Haik, will speak about achieving optimal health through moderation in eating, an active lifestyle, and mental balance through the teachings of Maimonides, renowned Torah scholar from the Middle Ages. Lunch will be at noon and catered by Pak-a-Pocket, or you can bring your own. For \$10 you get your choice of a falafel, turkey, or corned beef pita sandwich with pita chips and hummus. The program will start at 12:30. RSVP by Sunday, Sept. 15, to Michelle Hartman at hartman8729@sbcglobal.net or 817-706-3451.

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| 1 | 2 TEMPLE OFFICES CLOSED | 3 12 pm Jewish Puzzle Of Life 6 pm Evening Minyan 7:30 pm Curious About Conversion Class | 4 9:30 am Archives Meeting 11 am-2 pm Gift shop open 6 pm Evening Minyan | 5 6 pm Evening Minyan | 6 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Shabbat Service | 7 9 am Zoom Torah Study |
| 8 9:30 am First day of Religious School 10:30 am MRJ Meeting | 9 6 pm Evening Minyan 7 pm Board Meeting | 10 6 pm Evening Minyan | 11 9:30 Archives Meeting 11 am-2 pm Gift shop open 6 pm Evening Minyan | 12 6 pm Evening Minyan | 13 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Kabbalat Early Shabbat Service | 14 9 am Zoom Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service and Bar Mitzvah of Ashton Finklestein |
| 15 9:30 am Religious School WRJ Rosh Hashanah Bake-in 9:40 am Class with Rabbi Mecklenburger 10 am First day of Confirmation Class 12:15 pm FWFTY event | 16 6 pm Evening Minyan 7 pm Gates of Chai Lecture at Brite/TCU See Page 9 | 17 12 pm Jewish Puzzle Of Life 6 pm Evening Minyan | 18 9:30 Archives Meeting 11 am-2 pm Gift shop open 6 pm Evening Minyan | 19 12 pm PrimeTimers Event 6 pm Evening Minyan | 20 5:30 pm Tot Shabbat 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Kabbalat Early Shabbat Service | 21 9 am Zoom Torah Study 6 pm Beth El Film Fest "Pig" |
| 22 9:15 am-12:30 pm Gift shop open 9:30 am Religious School WRJ Membership Kick-off Pool Party TBD Maccabees trip to Dream Park | 23 6 pm Evening Minyan | 24 6 pm Evening Minyan 7:30 pm Curious About Conversion | 25 9:30 Archives Meeting 11 am-2 pm Gift shop open 6 pm Evening Minyan | 26 6 pm Evening Minyan | 27 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Kabbalat Early Shabbat | 28 9 am Zoom Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Song, Study and Lunch at Zimmerman home 6:45 pm Community Selichot at Ahavath Sholom |
| 29 9:30 am Religious School WRJ Rosh Hashanah Bake-in Jr. Maccabees sensory party 12:30 pm MRJ Sukkah Construction | 30 6 pm Evening Minyan | October 1 6 pm Evening Minyan | 2 EREV ROSH HASHANAH 7:30 pm Erev Rosh Hashanah Service and reception to follow | 3 ROSH HASHANAH TEMPLE OFFICES CLOSED 9 am Rosh Hashanah Children's service 10:30 am Rosh Hashanah morning service 6 pm Evening Minyan | 4 ROSH HASHANAH 6:15 pm Kabbalat Early Shabbat | 5 10:30 am Shabbat T'shuvah Song, Study and Lunch at Zimmerman home |

For additional information and updates about events, please visit our website at www.bethelfw.org or see Rabbi's e-blasts.

Summer Film Series



Pig

Drama, rated R

Saturday, Sept. 21

6 p.m.

Movies to Heal the Soul: Secular films, Jewish texts, High Holy Days Preparations

Join Rabbi Zimmerman for the final film in this series of favorite “secular” American films that explore deeply religious and personal ideas. Even if you don’t consider yourself a religious person, these films will touch your soul and prepare you for the New Year.

Nicolas Cage, in his best film role, turns off his usual bravado and portrays a hermit living in an Oregon forest with his truffle-hunting pig. When his prized companion is kidnapped, Cage must return to the cutthroat world he left to find it. Part meditation, part action film, and part satire of the gourmet food industry, “Pig” is a study in finding your way back after a great loss.

Our regular film series will resume after the holidays.

A Coming Together of Community Selichot Program

Preparing the body and the soul for the High Holy Days.

Saturday, Sept. 28, 6:45-10 p.m.

Congregation Ahavath Sholom,

4050 South Hulen St., Fort Worth

The evening begins with an innovative, hands-on challah-making activity. Together, we’ll craft a large, round challah for each synagogue – a symbol of unity, community, and spiritual growth.

These challahs will be baked later and enjoyed by each congregation during their Rosh Hashanah Kiddush, with the crumbs perfect for Tashlich. The evening will continue with the spirituality of Havdalah, individual classes taught by our local clergy, and climax with the Selichot Service led by our religious leaders.

6:45 p.m. Program begins

7:30 p.m. Light dessert reception

7:45 p.m. Havdalah & break-out study sessions

8:45 p.m. Selichot service led by all clergy

Please RSVP to Cindy Simon, c.simon@tarrantfederation.org, 817-569-0892

Congregation Ahavath Sholom

Beth-El Congregation

Congregation Beth Israel

The Jewish Federation of Fort Worth & Tarrant County

Congregation Beth Shalom

Makom Shelanu Congregation

Finding Our Place in the Jewish Puzzle of Life:

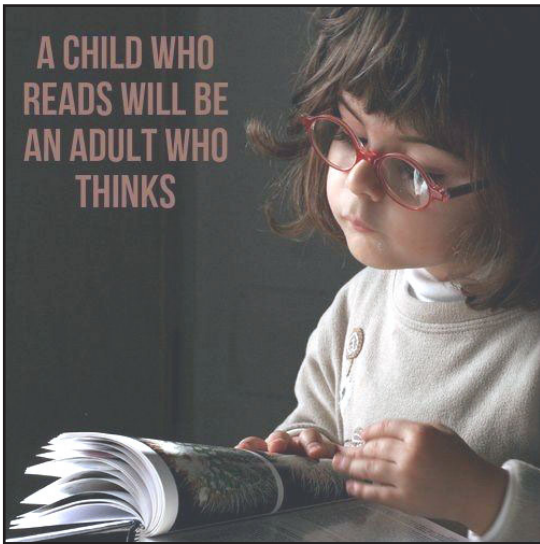
Tuesdays at noon, Sept. 3 and 17

Have you ever been asked why you are Jewish and found yourself groping for an answer? Has your son or daughter asked you why he or she has to have a bar or bat mitzvah and you found yourself speechless? This twice-monthly class led by Rabbi Zimmerman will study philosophers, bring in guest speakers, explore Jewish history and text to articulate a personal theology. Please consider joining us.

Curious About Conversion

First class: Tuesday, Sept. 3, 7:30 p.m.

The 11-session class will meet monthly and look at some of the broad themes and ideas, customs and concepts of Jewish life. It also will offer you a chance to meet others who have converted — all in a safe space to ask questions. A prerequisite for this class is an in-person conversation with Rabbi Zimmerman and a commitment to the readings and assignments that are part of the initial conversion process. While taking this class is a requirement for conversion, there is no expectation that all participants will choose this path. Please contact Rabbi Zimmerman with any questions or for more information.



A CHILD WHO
READS WILL BE
AN ADULT WHO
THINKS

Become a Reading Mentor

In just one hour per week you can help a child learn to love reading by participating in a rewarding joint Beth-El Congregation/CAS program by becoming a Reading Mentor.

You'll be paired with first-graders at nearby Westcliff Elementary on South Drive. Work with one or two children for 30 minutes each during sessions from mid-October to May. If you have a conflict or are traveling, a substitute tutor can cover for you.

No experience needed. In a 90-minute training session you'll learn how to help a child improve their reading skills, using a simple, structured guide.

For more info contact: Phyllis Levy 817 346-3550 or Jim Stanton 817 307-9167.

Promotional support provided by the Jewish Federation of Fort Worth & Tarrant County.

College Student Outreach

It's that time again to connect with Beth-El college students. PLEASE send Rabbi Zimmerman your college student's address, EVEN if you did it last year. (Most dorm addresses change every year!)

We'll send them packages during the year, or maybe even make a visit to their campus. ALL parents who get their student's address to the Temple by Sept. 25 guarantee a Starbucks card will be sent to the student for a sweet New Year.

Don't deprive your kids of essential caffeine!

Send your student's information by Sept. 25

to: rabbiz@bethelfw.org: Name, Address, E-mail, Phone, Birthday

The Program in Jewish Studies at Brite Divinity School invites you to attend:

The 27th Annual Gates of Chai Lectureship in Contemporary Judaism

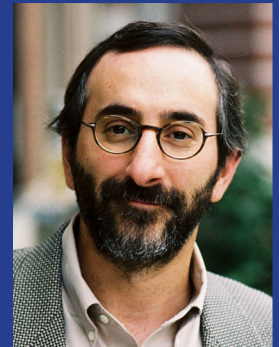
"The Hebrew Bible and the Afterlife:
Misconceptions and Reconsiderations"
featuring:

Dr. Benjamin D. Sommer
Monday, Sept. 16

7 p.m.

Dee J. Kelly Alumni Center
2820 Stadium Drive, TCU Campus

Reception to follow
brite.edu/gates



Healing prayers



Do you have the name of an ill family member or friend that you would like to be read at our Shabbat services? You can call the Temple office or go directly to our MiShebeirach/Prayer and visit the request link on Shulcloud at <https://bethelfw.shulcloud.com/form/beth-el-mi-shebeirach-or-visit-request>

Rabbi Zimmerman, Renee Woods, and Pattie Wood will get the information from this site quickly. We can't visit or offer assistance if we don't know! Thanks in advance for your help.

A Sukkot special

This year, order a lulav and etrog set for only \$30

Contact Rabbi Zimmerman at rabbiz@bethelfw.org by Sept. 15 to place your order.

Make the holiday of Sukkot even more special.

Yahrzeits

Sept. 6

Melvin Blumberg
David McLaurin Campbell
Raymond E. Cohn
Alfred Davis
Ira Diamond
Sara Drabkin Ellman
Murray N. Friedman Elias
Friedmann
Marcus Ginsburg
Carol Gold
Leslie Kaitcer
Michael Kanzer Seymour
Lawrence Hildegard
Lehmann Ethel Lenhoff
Jack I. Nass
Bernard Rabinowitz Irving
Rapfogel Madeline
Sankary Samuels Marc
"Manny" Sands Oscar
Seligman
Joseph Strassman Eugene
Urbach
Fannie Weinstein
Nat E. Winston
Stella Band Zodin

Sept. 13

Fredric Gans Altman
Harry Archenhold
Jennifer Ann Berkman
Jerry Berkowitz
Claire Blackman
Dr. Elliott Blumberg
Daisy Alten Borenstein
Carrie Endel Brin
Alice Burke
Richard Burt
David Carb
Jack Cohen
Moses Cohen
Lillian Deutsch
Jack Dewees
Joyce Drouillard
Jack L. Ellman
David A. Feld
A. S. Friedberg
Daniel Friedman
David Simon Friedman
Albert Gerrick
Florence Gordon
Albert V. Halpern
Sarah P. Horwitz
Isaac Kaplan
Frank Koptowsky
Julius L. Kottler

James Robert Kunen
Sol Lehrer
Sam Letwin
Ellie A. Levy
Kenneth Marks
Yolanda Moore
Annette Meyers Planick
Kate Cooles Rosenfield
Jacob Ross
Henry Schwartz
Robert E. Sepin
William Tann
Minette Urbach
Reed Warner
Abe Weil
Toby Wolf
Ronald Wolfe

Sept. 20

Jennie Labovitz Baum
Ben Bernstein
Libby Blumberg
Jeanne Brown
Joe Cohen
Lillie Lind Cohn
Frances Feuer
Herman Forman
Jacob Frankel
Edith Zodin Gachman

Julia Gernsbacher
Sherle Haber
Minnie K. Kahn
Ethel Kaplan
Dorothy Kaplan
George LaMere
Rebecca Lubin
Morris Mallin
Bernice Gans Mayer
Val Pikkell
Fred Reisner
Louis Richker
Frances Rothstein
Lena Schiff
Jack Schuster
Paul Schwartz
Merwin J. Sherline
Jack Sherman
Eugene Steinberger
Rose Marcus Tobey
Mollie Tobolowsky
Clara Zack
Myer Zevin

Sept. 27

Genia Altshuler
Sylvia Becker
Ida Brown
Julie Bush

Paul Chasen
Louis Fels
Rebecca Foreman
Andrew Friedberg
Dorothy Friedman
Mollie Ginsburg
Steve Grisham
Celeste Haas
Bernie Hollander
Max Krauss
Jerry Lamensdorf
Carmen Lederman
David Lesky
Raymond Lifchez
B. Max Mehl
Corrie Nackson
Dorothy Daniels Polsky
Azziza Rashti
Norman Rubin
Elaine Gressman Samson
Sarah Smulian
Nathan Tobey
Carol Toobin
Lila Letwin Tuchin
Rhea Waxman
Albert Weinbaum

Divrei Torah

(continued from page 1)

parents and children together. I will lead the service with our youth group, FWFTY, and this year we'll be joined by Angie Friedman, our wonderful, warm, and welcoming song leader and composer.

Yom Kippur afternoon service times and programming changes include a 12:45 p.m. meeting in the library to reflect on the world since last year, with special attention paid to our relationship

with the State of Israel. At 3:30 p.m., we'll meet in the chapel just before Yizkor for a service of reflection and meditation overlooking our chapel garden.

Finally, the biggest change this year is that Cantor Shoshana Abrams Kaikov, our Education Director, will join me, the choir, and Musical Director John Sauvey to lead High Holy Days services. An ordained cantor, Shoshana has focused on her role as an educator at Beth-El. This year, because the availability of student cantors from Hebrew Union College was

limited, Cantor Shoshana has agreed to help out and take a leadership role in our holiday services even while getting Religious School ready for the coming year. This is a unique and rare opportunity to hear a master voice and prayer leader. Please join us at as many services as possible.

Changes big and small. I hope they will inspire you to retrace your steps and determine what modifications might be worth a try for you and your family in the coming year.

MRJ's Annual Matzo Ball Classic Golf Tournament

Sunday, Oct. 20, at 1 p.m.
Hawk's Creek Golf Club
6520 White Settlement Road
Westworth Village, TX 76114

\$130 Entry Fee
Each player receives a round of golf with cart and gift bag. Prizes for the longest drive and closest to the pin.

Name: _____

Team Members: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Matzo Ball Classic Sponsorships:

- \$1,000 Gold Sponsor**
Recognition as dinner sponsor and includes 4 golf entry fees
- \$750 Silver Sponsor**
Special recognition and includes 4 golf entry fees
- \$175 Hole Sponsorship**

Enclosed is my check made payable to **Beth-El MRJ** for the amount of (Fees + Sponsorship): \$ _____

Detach and return this form with payment by Oct. 7 to:

Beth-El MRJ
4900 Briarhaven Road
Fort Worth, TX 76109



The Matzo Ball Classic is a Beth-El MRJ Activity and Fundraiser

Youth Group Summer Activities



BEJY (5th-7th grades) at Meow Wolf on June 1.



Maccabees (1st-4th grades) toured the Bureau of Engraving and had dinner at Luna Grill on June 27.

BETH-EL JUDAICA SHOP

CLEARANCE SALE

UP TO
75% OFF

TAX FREE DAY
SEPTEMBER 8TH

BLUE DOT - 25% OFF
 GREEN DOT - 50% OFF
 RED DOT - 75% OFF



Beth-El Congregation
4900 Briarhaven Road
Fort Worth, TX 76109

Our mission: To meet the spiritual, educational, social, and religious needs of its members through the teachings and practices of Reform Judaism and to connect members to their Jewish identity and community.

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 817-332-7141 phone
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Rabbi Emeritus, Ralph Mecklenburger:
 rabbi@bethelfw.org

Executive Director, Renée Woods:
 director@bethelfw.org

Executive Assistant, Pattie Wood
 bethelofc@bethelfw.org

Education Director, Cantor Shoshana Abrams Kaikov:
 shoshanakaikov@bethelfw.org

Music Director, John Sauvey: jesbaritone@gmail.com

Building Manager, Jaime Rivera: cust@bethelfw.org

Bulletin Editor, Rick Press: rickbpress@gmail.com

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FWFTY: Connor Maxon, President

Contributions

· Make your contribution online at: **bethelfw.org** or fill out the form below and mail it with your check to Beth-El Congregation

· **Undesignated donations** will be placed in the Temple Fund.

\$18-minimum contribution: Temple Fund, Religious School Fund, Youth Fund, Library Fund, Music Fund, Mitch Stenzler Scholarship Fund, Rabbi Zimmerman's Discretionary Fund, Rabbi Mecklenburger's Discretionary Fund, President's Discretionary Fund, Religious School Director's Discretionary Fund, Temple Archives, Caring Congregation

\$50-minimum contribution: Rosenthal-Siegel Education Endowment Fund, Operating Endowment Fund, Endowment #2

Other funds: **Tree \$20, Prayer Book \$30, Floral \$50, Tree of Life Leaf \$300**

Contribution Form

Enclosed please find the amount of \$ _____

Designated Fund: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Donor Name(s): _____

Please send me

Address: _____

_____ (qty)

Phone: _____

additional forms.

Send acknowledgment to: _____

